

**MICROBIAL TRANSFORMATION METHOD FOR
THE PREPARATION OF AN EPOTHILONE**

Abstract

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A microbial method for the preparation of an epothilone containing a terminal hydroxyalkyl group, comprising contacting at least one epothilone having a terminal alkyl group with an enzyme or microorganism capable of catalyzing the selective hydroxylation of said alkyl group to a hydroxyalkyl group, and effecting said 10 hydroxylation.